

NORTH TEXAS SUZUKI ASSOCIATION SUMMARY OF MEETING

April 26, 2020

NTSA convened for its annual spring meeting, virtually, at 4:00 P.M. on April 26, 2020, via the videotelephony software platform Zoom.

NTSA members present:

Katie Adams
Judy Bossuat-Gallic
Christine Collins-Davis
Neil Fong Gilfillan
Mary Margaret Haraden
Kate Jones
Friederike Lehrbass
Christopher Mattaliano
Kaylie Pugh
Susan Pugh
Vincent Pugh
Patty Purcell
Rachel Samson
Amber Sander
Lindsay Serdar
Ashlie Skidmore
Daina Staggs
Jenny Lee Vaughn

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

NTSA President, Daina Staggs, convened the meeting at approximately 4:05 P.M., extending a welcome to those present, and inviting all members to share a positive shift in their teaching due to the COVID-19 pandemic and shelter in place. Some of the ideas shared include:

- Can see how parents interact with their children
- More frank conversations with families about their learning needs
- Learning how to better use and implement technology
- Character development in students, especially flexibility and resiliency
- Getting to know each other better through video conversations and seeing each other's homes
- Increased student focus

- Time for rainy day student projects, such as experimentation with videos and releasing material on iTunes and Spotify
- Efficient teaching (unpacking and tuning doesn't need to eat into lesson time)
- Breaking boundaries, like tuning
- Special appreciation and enjoyment of Suzuki time in new domestic routines
- More practice and time with parents = progress and excitement
- Up close (really close!) demos of instrument and bow hands
- Allows for flexibility and also demands flexibility

APPROVING THE MINUTES

The minutes from the Fall 2019 meeting were approved without change at 4:22 due to a motion by Ms. Staggs that was seconded by Ms. Skidmore.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Skidmore shared the four pages of her Google Doc report via Zoom screen share— Overview, Teacher Development 2020, Trophy Festival 2020, and Scholarships 2020. NTSA's total assets are \$19,849.14, but she projected our balance will be \$14,599.14 due to \$5,250 in unpaid expenses. Those expenses include \$5,000 for seven scholarships (6 student and 2 teacher), and \$250 for Whitley tax preparation. She overviewed that this year's Teacher Development event made \$3,102 in profit, and that Trophy Festival had a spike in participants and pulled in \$3,551.53. She already paid out three student conference registrations totaling \$400. Any money that is not used this year due to institute or conference cancellation will be held until next year.

Ms. Haraden inquired if SAA is planning to reimburse the student conference registrations that have been paid. Ms. Skidmore said that she ultimately doesn't know, but that hopefully the conference will proceed in September, as rescheduled.

The report was approved at 4:26 due to a motion by Ms. Staggs that was seconded by Ms. Collins-Davis.

TEACHER DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Ms. Staggs explained that we would normally discuss ideas for next year's teacher development clinician or topic at this meeting, but that the board has decided to shelf the planning until fall due to the COVID-19 pandemic. SAA is hosting small-batch teacher seminars this summer, and handling all related monetary logistics. If social distancing is still a necessity in the fall, we may approach SAA's Executive Director/CEO, Pam Brasch, about the possibility of NTSA co-hosting

a similar seminar and being awarded a percentage of the profit. Ms. Staggs elaborated on SAA's broader professional development position during the health emergency, saying that SAA is not currently approving online unit training instruction, though that may change by the fall.

TROPHY FESTIVAL

Ms. Skidmore reported that attendance was at an all-time high this year. She is officially turning over the operation of Trophy Festival to Ms. Samson, who assisted heavily this year. She also shared that Ms. Runyon's church in Colleyville, Bransford Rd. LDS Meeting House, will no longer host Trophy Festival activities in the future, and asked if HEB might be able to host instead. Ms. Haraden said that Trophy Festival had been held at Bellaire before, and that she didn't think there would be a fee if we returned. Ms. Purcell said South Euless and Lakewood had been used before, too. Dr. Jones mentioned that HEB recently changed its rules regarding venue usage, and that we should reach out to administration before much further planning. Ms. Collins-Davis continued that we would need approval from HEB's Mark Chandler before approaching individual campus principals. Ms. Samson reminded the group that Trophy Festival might not even be a viable event next year, but with the possibility that we are able to proceed, she asked if one of the HEB Suzuki teachers would serve as a point person with whom she can communicate about potential HEB venue use. Ms. Haraden volunteered to contact Mr. Chandler once district operations normalize, and he can hear our request.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Scholarships were awarded to five students and two teachers. Those funds are currently being held until events are confirmed or rescheduled. Ms. Staggs asked if said awards would be held for the designated students in perpetuity. Ms. Skidmore advised us to take things one year at a time. Dr. Sander inquired how potential delayed scholarship payouts would affect the application guideline that states, "Students that were awarded a scholarship in the previous year are not eligible to apply the following year." When will the current scholarship winners be able to apply again? Ms. Staggs said she will discuss Dr. Sander's inquiry with the Scholarship Committee.

BOARD ELECTIONS

The current terms for the board offices of Vice President and Secretary will expire in August. Dr. Vaughn is stepping down from her position of Secretary. Ms. Staggs communicated that Dr. Vaughn mentioned that Dr. Sander expressed willingness to serve in new capacities at the last general meeting, and nominated Dr. Sander for Secretary. Ms. Staggs opened the floor for additional nominations. As there were none, Ms. Skidmore seconded Ms. Staggs nomination.

The NTSA membership body voted Dr. Sander in via video with the thumbs up signal. There were none in dissent.*

Mr. Mattaliano said he is willing to continue serving as Vice President. Ms. Staggs expressed her appreciation, indicating that the responsibilities of the VP role are the most laborious of all the offices. The membership body voted Mr. Mattaliano in for a second term via video with the thumbs up signal. There were none in dissent.**

SUMMER INSTITUTES & WORKSHOPS

It is unclear, at this point, how many summer institutes will assemble this year, in the face of continued cancellations due to the coronavirus.

OTHER ITEM

Ms. Bossuat-Gallic shared that meeting protocol dictates that an organization's president cannot move a motion in a general meeting.

- * Due to Ms. Bossuat-Gallic's advise about proper meeting procedures, the original nomination for Dr. Sander was replaced with one by Dr. Jones. The nomination was then seconded by Ms. Collins-Davis.
- * * Upon the rules of order discussion, a proper nomination for Mr. Mattaliano was made by Ms. Skidmore. The nomination was then seconded by Dr. Sander.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned shortly after 5:00 P.M.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.

Jenny Lee Vaughn
Secretary
North Texas Suzuki Association

These minutes will be formally considered by the membership at its next meeting, and any corrections or notations will be incorporated in the minutes of that meeting.